Sierra Club YODELER

Volume VIII August 26, 1946 Number 13

CONSERVATIONIST GETS AROUND

Since the last Yodeler we have seen and heard many things which caused us to think furiously as the French say: the ease and speed with which a helicopter landed and picked up sacks of mail from the roof of the Los Angeles Post Office; the strange doings of jeeps in the high country; the tourists who demanded soon after arriving at Tuolumne Meadows, "How soon can we get out of this hell-hole?"

Helicopters have their place in expediting communications, in making landings in national forests and parks for emergency purposes, but in unscrupulous or thoughtless hands present a brand new policing and fire prevention problem. Both park and forest service people are already at work on this problem, but an educational program which would teach fliers that those who use the forests and mountain country below are entitled to peace and quiet in these surroundings is essential.

During a strenuous two-day tour of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountain areas under the auspices of the Forest Service, we looked at everything from Charlton Flats to the top of Mount San Gorgonio. The Wild Area we found finer than expected and very well patronized by hikers and campers. Besides the Forest Service officers who were along, Glen Dawson of our Ski Mountaineers and Stan Mullins of the Ski Association ably represented ski enthusiasts desirous of modifying wild areas sufficiently to permit easier access for skiers in various areas. This subject is due for discussion at the Directors' Labor Day meeting.

In Tuolumne Meadows, in addition to the tourists who wanted to be on their way, we found hundreds of fishermen--at least one for every fish--the hikers and backpackers, individual pack horse and saddle horse parties coming and going to all parts of the Park. Our good friend Superintendent Frank Kittredge is (cont. p. 2)

HIGH TRIP HAS ITS UPS AND DOWNS

The High Trip again--and with it all we remembered of High Trips in the past--the beauty of the mountains in all their summer phases; the fellowship of our friends; the fine leadership; the campfires; the "Leonard miles" (the same species as the "Colby miles" of earlier days); the fresh-caught trout; the excellent meals; the one improvement--the shorter lines to get those meals!

The first two weeks were notable for the contrasts. Hot and dry to start with --cold and wet when we came out; sandy barren stretches--lush meadows and shady streams; the Owens Valley--Mount Whitney; fresh lamb--Spam!

Highlights

That first day from Carroll Creek to Horseshoe Meadow. The way was dry--our tongues were cotton--in fact a few of us felt rotten!

The marvelously ducked and "orchided" cross country trail to camp near Rock Creek. Everything one could wish for--(except the mosquitoes). Climbs of Mounts Langley, Le Conte, Mallory, The Mitre. Polemonium; long exploratory hikes to near and distant lakes and passes; other alpine flora. The inability of the Polemonium Club to retain a president--Dick Leonard and Alan Hedden (Cont.p. 4)

OUTING PICTURES TO BE SHOWN

Kodachromes taken this summer on the High Trip and other outings will be shown at the CENTURY CLUB, 1355 Franklin St., near Sutter, on Tuesday, SEPT. 24, at 8:00 p.m. As usual this meeting is open to members and their friends.

The Educational Committee is still working on plans for future meetings but due to the well known housing problem and the equally well known rise in prices, we have not yet found a suitable hall for the rest of our winter meetings. At least we will start the season well and the next Yodeler will carry more details of our plans.--CHC

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MANY THANKS to all those who by contributions and in other ways helped to get out this issue.

Next Deadline: Monday, Sept. 16, 7:30

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PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBIT TO BE HELD

Have you made an album of the photographs you took on the High Trip or whatever trip you were on this summer? The annual exhibit of outing pictures will be held in the Club office from September 23 to October 5, and we all want to see your pictures. If you are willing to take orders for them, please state the period during which you will do so, number each picture, with the price, and don't forget your name and address. Attach all this to the album. If you do not wish to take orders, send your album in to the office anyway, but state that no orders will be taken.

Conservation

(cont. from p. 1) is doing much to foster such travel through the publication of a simple guide for such trips. (Copies may be obtained at Park Headquarters in Yosemite Valley.)

At Parsons Lodge and other places were many people who would like to see the wilderness left as is. They now make a larger and more determined group than we had dared hope for a few years back. The main problem now is to bring the weight of their opinions to bear on threats to this wilderness quickly enough to do some real good. This is the big problem that the Conservation Committee of the Sierra Club will tackle this year. May we find the time and the means to succeed in it.

--Arthur H. Blake

HERE AND THERE OVER LABOR DAY

This national holiday is generally considered a time for recreation and temporary release from labor. Conservationists, however, use it for a happy combination of recreation and redoubled labor and effort to save those very places which the people depend on for their enjoyment of that holiday and others.

Federation Meets in Mendocino Woods

Members of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs are looking forward to the convention at Mendocino Woodlands over that week end. Not only is it a delightful spot to gather, with the hospitable Contra Costa Hills Club as host, but the meeting will be of great interest in that many postwar conservation problems will be brought up for discussion, and possible solution (we hope).

Our Directors Journey South

Another important meeting is that of the Sierra Club directors, to be held at Cedar Grove, Kings Canyon National Park. It is a very good thing that now the war is over the opportunity has come again to all of us, directors and other members too, to find our way into the parks and forests. If we want to support something, it is well to know it at first hand and intimately.

YODELEARS HEAR---

--of additions to many Sierra Club families---including

--Pauline, second daughter of the Ike Livermores.

--Robert Irish, second son of the Dave Browers.

--Marilyn, daughter of Donald and Margaret Dietrich.

--of the arrival from Japan, of John Schagen. At this moment Johnnie is at Camp Beale, where with Vivian to cheer from the sidelines, it is hoped he will manage a speedy disconnection from the Army.

--of the marriage on August 11 of Jack Abernathy and Barbara Blodgett. Congratulations and best wishes to you both!

--that North Palisade dropped a rock on Helen Smith, which broke her arm and sent her home from the High Trip much too soon.

--that Al Glenn FOUND a pocket knife on long Lake Lagunitas Trip August 11. (Phone MIssion 7224)

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS MORE THAN ONCE

Much refreshed after its varied vacations the Yodelstaff returns to work, and once again the Yodeler is on its way to avid and eager readers. And now is the time for those of you who have not yet had that unique experience of working on the yellow sheet to turn your thoughts in that direction. In the June 17 issue of the Yodeler a brief summary was given of the functions of the various Yodeler departments. There are possibilities for the experienced and for the inexperienced. Read on, dear Subscriber, and you will hear from some one in each of these departments: Here is the lowdown on what they do and how they do it. Which of these interesting jobs seems to be most in your line?

Make-up Night. (Not the cosmetological department). This is the time when copy is assembled, edited, re-written, cut or discarded, and finally typed into the proper form for the stencil cutters. This is the night when every table, desk and typewriter in the Sierra Club office is in use, when the typists wish for more typewriters, when the editors wish for more quiet, when the phone rings constantly, when you are handed copy with instructions to "Type this in a 40 space column", or asked "How about getting us some cokes?" This, in other words, is not a dull night. If you think typing odd copy or re-writing odder copy sounds interesting, come down and let us give you a try.

Stencil Cutting. Some people might regard stencil cutting with just about as much enthusiasm as other people regard, well, say covering a hundred miles of steep mountain trails on a two-weeks' vacation. But anything can be fun in the Sierra Club, and usually is--sleeping on granite, peeling onions, bathing in melted snow, even cutting stencils! Mostly, we love the mountains, and we love to "publish information about them," and we love the Sierra Club, and we just pitch in and do a little work once in a while to keep things going. For instance, if we know how to type, we drop around on Yodeler nights and cut a stencil or two. If we practically go nuts doing the first hundred, we don't go nuts, we just cut some more stencils. Then, perhaps to our surprise, we find out how much fun it is to cut a page we can read, to make each stencil look a little better than the last one.

Reporters and Contributors. Those of you who have a "nose for news" and the ability to write that news down in a way that will interest Yodeler readers, are urged to try your hand at Yodelereporting. Many things come to the attention of observant members which the Yodelstaff may miss entirely. So come on reporters, let's have some independent reporting.

And come on other contributors too! Anything of special interest to Yodelreaders is welcome. But contributions must be in early on the day of the deadline. We may even push the deadline to the week before, as late copy cannot be used. Our time is budgeted, and how!

The Art Department. We will welcome, with open arms and reams of lovely yellow paper, any member who enjoys indulging in an evening of story illustration. One doesn't have to be an "arty-artist"--look at past Yodelers for proof of that statement! We would like to have some sparkling new ideas in our Staff--perhaps you're just the one! If you've never cut a drawing on a stencil don't let that discourage you; it's quite simple, really!

Circulation Department. Under this department come the Subscriptions--and maybe you don't think that it is interesting trying to keep up with the subscribing members!--and the addressing--which is also an interesting matter of keeping up! The addressing is of two kinds--on the addressograph, those who have plates, and by hand those whose addresses change frequently, who have not plates, and complimentary copies sent to new members of the Club. Anyone who enjoys details, (for subscriptions), or operating a mechanical instrument, (such as an addressograph), or even improving his handwriting, (addressing envelopes), send in his or her name to Yodeleditor for two hours work per month.

Mimeographing. Good exercise after work--and as you may realize, one of the most important jobs that is done! Ken Adam will share the job with any interested mimeographer and if you don't know how, he will gladly teach you the tricks.

And Folding and Stuffing. Who staples the pages, folds and stuffs in their envelopes and then sends them on their way? Once a month the NSS takes care of this important matter. The alternate time is not so well equipped with help--how about it?

A course on OUR NATIONAL PARKS & MONUMENTS will be given by Dr. Aubrey Neasham of the NPS beginning Thursday, Sept.19, 8-9:30 pm. UC Extension, S.F. 10 meetings, $7.50.

LIGHTNING STRIKES SIERRA PARTY

Electrical storms in the mountains can be exceedingly bad business, as is shown by Vee Krysiak's report of his pack trip in the Whitney region.

The small group of Sierra Club members, on leaving Carroll Creek Pack Station, ran into a heavy hail and rain storm en route to Army Pass. Those on foot were lunching during a break in the storm at Golden Trout Camp, when the packer, Fred Moore arrived to report that four animals had been struck by lightning, three were dying, and Marion Moreland who was riding, had been knocked unconscious and burned. He worked on her half an hour before she regained consciousness. (cont. p. 6)

High Trip

(cont. from p.1) continually outdoing each other on the same cracks. Ike enjoyed the luxury (?) of quiet days in camp with crutches.

Whitney Creek above Crabtree Meadows. The long lovely trail trip for some, with Mt. Guyot as an aside; the rugged cross country trip for others. The late but safe arrival of intrepid cross countryites, Elsa Bailey and "the man in the plaid shirt"--"if she can't find camp she can find Kemp" (quote from Elmo Robinson's poetical vignettes next evening at campfire), climbs of Muir and Russell, the "rodeos" in women's camp.

The moonlight climb of Mt. Whitney--sunrise from the summit.

Tyndall Creek. The "warm" little lakes for swimming; the first albicaulis, trips to the Kern River, Lake South America and others; clouds and the first few drops of rain.

Over Forester Pass. Where the irresistible packtrain met the immovable people.

Center Basin. Camped beside gorgeous Bubbs Creek. The rain, the sudden springing up of tents; the blossoming of campfires; the hail in our chile (chilly?) The wettish, quiet, last day in camp; tea brewing everywhere. The auction, with Kitty Lynch the lively auctioneer, the bandanna show, AND, the Freshman Show!

Then sad, oh bitter! the last day! Vidette Meadows--with the feeling of coming home to a more familiar habitat as we journeyed north; the climb up to Bullfrog Lake and the parting of the ways with the lucky ones who went on to Charlotte Lake; over Kearsarge Pass. Onion Valley; some second two weekers; mail; RAIN; the first taste of fresh fruit and milk; and then--Au revoir. --HTP

(Report of second two weeks in next issue.)

NATURAL SCIENCE SECTION

Beauty's Where You Look For It.

One of the best outings of the whole year is that first walk in our summer-dried coastal hills after our year's High tripping or Base camping is over. Maybe the air is heavy and the sky dull; maybe, compared to splashing brooks, our springs look dry; maybe we miss the green velvet of mountain meadows and the flowered rockery of summit slopes; maybe the watermelon and the huckleberry lack the sweet wild flavor of the alpine salal and strawberry; but we are again among those summer sights and sounds and smells we have grown to love as California's own; sere hills against the sky, the song of the wren-tit amid the brush, the fragrance of the morning fog on fields of tar weed. Best of all we are back with our Sierran friends with whom we shall tramp our local trails for another year. High road or low road, friendship is a beauty we can have and enjoy the whole year round, everywhere.

Tutti Frutti

Sunday, August 25 was the date of the first of our trips following the summer vacation period. It was again on Huckleberry Ridge in the East Bay Hills, although we tried a different route of approach. The berries were not as plentiful as last year but we managed to get enough for a few future "goodies" (in a variety of containers) and plenty for on-the-spot consumption. After lunch some very descriptive letters from our member now living in England, Mrs. Kay (Boysen) Hargreaves, were read, while the listeners either reclined or cleaned huckleberries.

--C. Lovett

Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, has been christened NSS Night in our honor, by Cy Washburn and his committee, who would like us all to be present on this occasion. Dinner is from 5:30 to 7:00; the program lasts until 7:30. Two pictures entitled MYSTERIES OF PLANT LIFE and WONDERS OF THE SEA will be presented. These are very highly praised by those who have seen them.

Calendar

Sept. 17--Tuesday Night Dinner Meeting NSS Night, Women's City Club.

Sept. 20--Evening Meeting, 7:30 p.m. 360 Mills Tower. Pictures and reports on the summer's vacation trips.

Sept. 22--Field Trip (Details in next YODELER)

WE LIKED THE BASE CAMP

Base camp this year was established in one of the most beautiful and spectacular regions of the Sierra - in the Fourth Recess of Mono Creek. Our preliminary first camp was on the east side in Rock Creek Basin, at the foot of Mount Abbott and the Bear Creek Spire. After three days of walking, botanizing, sunbathing and generally getting acclimated we crossed the 12,000 foot Mono Pass and moved to our beautiful permanent camp Shangri-la in the Fourth Recess at 10,500 feet.

One of the outstanding things about this Base Camp trip was the remarkably varied and profuse wildflowers. I think I have never seen them so abundant and so beautiful. This seemed to be an especially good year for them, and the mountainsides and meadows everywhere we walked were splashed with their color. The botanists were in their element, and John Tom Howell took us on many an interesting botanical tour.

We were supposed to have had lots of rain, but as a matter of fact it only rained one entire day and night, and the rest of the time it was clear with occasional showers. There were many splendid walks and climbs to be taken in and around Fourth Recess, glaciers to explore for the hardy, and easy strolls for the lazy ones. Fishermen and photographers also had plenty to occupy them.

To compensate for the rain---never was food so good on a high mountain camping trip! And the campfires in the evenings brought out plenty of fine talent and entertainment. I am sure all who were privileged to go on this trip felt it was one of the most successful and enjoyable of its kind. ---Helen Le Conte

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WEST POINT CLUB SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Aug.31-Sept.2	Roene McCook	Res.UN 2071 Bus.GA 8200
Sept. 7-9 *	Mollie Kopfli	TU 0514
(No Sat.Din.but Sun.Break.lunch &dinner Monday, breakfast & lunch)		
Sept. 14-15.*	Alice Tesch (Eve.)	PR 3218
Sept. 21-22	Helen Piper	MA 2723
Sept. 28-29	Mary Garland	WA 5452

*Central Commissary

FIRST KNAPSACK TRIP A SUCCESS

Under the able leadership of Bob Breckenfeld, fifteen knapsackers pushed out on July 21 after a moist night at Onion Valley. On this first knapsack trip since the war, two weeks were spent in the primitive area of the southern Sierra; over Kearsarge Pass to Kearsarge Lakes; down Bubbs Creek and up East Fork to East Lake; return to Center Basin, up Glenn Pass to Sixty Lakes Basin; over same pass to Kearsarge Lakes, Kearsarge Pass, Onion Valley. Ascents were made of University Peak, Rixford and Gould, Brewer, Deerhorn, Bricoson, Harrison Pass, Clarence King, Fin Dome.

Things seen and unseen: Super-chef Bob Russell, his delectable apple turnovers, hot gingerbread, biscuits, etc. Indefatigable Peggy Cullen, cooking, or - ask her about University Peak! Don't know what lures the fishermen used, but Annette Sailer, Barbara Stott, Lucille Douglas, Sam Hopkins, Chuck Follmer, kept us well supplied - and from eating Spam! Chuck and Sam caught trout - but stuck to eating canned tuna! The food cache near East Lake which contained enough oatmeal to feed all the high trip mules! Wally Degan gallantly belaying the gals on Clarence King; ditto Joe Brower on top of Deerhorn. Up the "Paul Bunyan Highway" with Norman Clyde, Jules Eichhorn, Joe Brower to climb Brewer. Marion Fruhling, Merrill Norton, Arnold Clark - camera fiends. Dependable John Heldring and Adolph Pabst - the latter with his geology pick in good use for scooping out beds in the cave at East Lake during threatening weather; all the "apartments" in the cave! The "new" route Bob Breckenfeld took up Clarence King and Marguerite Martin's "grandmother" route on Fin Dome. Peggy Cullen bartering butter for coffee. The 16-mile trek from East Lake over Glenn Pass to Sixty Lakes Basi - my aching back.!' Marion Fruhling and John Heldring - on to Whitney. Helene Glass stuffing four pairs of wool sox in Wally Degan's Keds when her boots fell to pieces.

A good leader, a good crew, a good trip!

--Helene Glass

(With additions by Robert Russell)

THE JEEP has been met fact to face in the fastnesses of the mountains! John Montgomery reports that while hiking along in the high country, a jeep suddenly appeared bouncing merrily over the trackless wilds. When he mentioned the fact that jeeps are not allowed (any more than dogs, cats and firearms) the jeepers were surprised, hurt and disgusted.

"Jeepers creepers" they were heard to mutter as they crashed away over a fine boulder, splitting it to atoms, "What a law, what a law! And in a free country too!"

WHY LOCAL WALKERS DON'T PANT

Since the last issue of the Yodeler, most of you have had your vacations. Most likely you were some place in the Sierra, puffing up a trail in the rare mountain air. We like to feel that the Local Walkers were puffing the least--just a matter of being in condition.

The attendance on our summer walks was surprisingly high considering the large number on the club outings. The July 4 weekend at Norden was very successful with about 40 enjoying several days of hiking, swimming and eating. (See next column)

Our information sheet for visitors has been completed and we are now giving them out on our Sunday walks. We hope this will give the newcomers an idea of what membership in the Sierra Club means.

September brings us several events which you should plan to attend. There is the chartered bus trip to Big Basin on September 8 and the trip to Portola Park on September 22. On the 15th we have the barbecue at Lake Lagunitas. Tickets are now being sold by the Local Walks and Entertainment committees at $1.50. Your committee will probably have the most ravenous appetites as they will have to carry all the food in on their backs. Please remember that reservations for these events must be made in advance.

To those of you who have just returned from your vacation, we can't promise you hikes above the timberline, but we do have some interesting walks up to 2600 feet. Why not try them?

--Larry Enos

Lightning

(cont. from p. 4) The accident had occurred three miles back in a shallow canyon along Little Cottonwood Creek, right on the trail near two trees which were unharmed. The elevation was about 10,000 feet. The party returned immediately, got Marion safely in a pup tent just before the storm broke out again. The doctor arrived with the rescue party in about three hours, and they all moved to Golden Trout Camp. Nightlong attention enabled Marion to leave in the morning for Lone Pine Hospital, where she spent the next four days. Vincent Orlando stayed with her, and we are happy to hear that she is entirely recovered.

The rest of the group, Vee, Ruth Doyle, Rene St. Ges, and Mia Wimpfheimer, continued the trip and managed to take in Mts. Langley, Whitney, Muir, Barnard, Tyndall, and the three Whitney Needles.

GLORIOUS FOURTH

Under the leadership of that rugged mountaineer, Albert Glenn, the hospitality of Clair Tappaan Lodge was thoroughly enjoyed by thirty Sierrans over the long Fourth of July week-end. Al planned some excellent trips--to the CCA station at Donner Summit Thursday after dinner; to the top of Mt. Lincoln via Mary's Lake, (for snow sherbet); to Peter Grubb Hut and the top of Castle. Leo Schuchard led a group over the old road to Donner Lake for a swim party.

Evenings were given over to folk dancing. One after dinner excursion was made to the Norden dispatcher's office to see the "Big Board", and the City of San Francisco unhitch the steam engine! Friday evening, we had a welcome visit from Chief W. M. Williamson, head of the Tahoe National Forest, who talked of the Service's problems and solicited support of Sierrans--which was heartile pledged.

Visitors from the Los Angeles Chapter were Mr. and Mrs. S. Campos.

The "daily paper" made the rounds each evening and everyone turned to with a will to do housekeeping. Willie Williams was a dish-washing-dynamo, with noble assistants! Mrs. Pratt, mother of Jack Blankenship, won acclaim by producing ten dozen--count 'em, 120--hot biscuits for Saturday breakfast and some superior pumpkin pies to accompany the turkey dinner. The amateur (?) cooks under the supervision of amiable host Keith Lummis outdid themselves, and many an impromptu ode was dedicated to them.

There was a rousing vote of thanks for Al and a "Let's do it again!" spirit abroad.

--Violet Lenihan

TUESDAY DINNERS

SEPT. 3 - Hilary Crawford, President of Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, will tell us what happened at their annual meeting, August 31-Sept. 2.

SEPT. 10 - Corwin Hansen will speak on "Advice to Novices Re Photography."

SETP. 17 - Natural Science Section Night. Pictures furnished by Standard Oil on "Mysteries of Plant Life" and "Sea-Shore Oddities." Both of these are in beautiful color and sound.

SEPT. 24 - The Dinner Committee is not scheduling a program as the Educational Committee is showing pictures at the Century Club, 1335 Franklin.

WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU ON TUESDAY NIGHTS.